

BELVOIR RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

F.J.H. MARTIN,
D.P.H., Oxon.,
Medical Officer of Health.

BOTTESFORD, Notts.

April, 1926.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I herewith beg to present to you my Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health for the Belvoir Rural District for the Year 1925. The outline of the Report is very similar to that relating to the Year 1924.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

<u>Area</u> (in acres)	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,352.
<u>Population</u> :	Census, 1921	-	-	-	-	-	3,220.
	Estimated for 1925	-	-	-	-	-	<u>3,297.</u>

Physical features and General Character of the Area:

The District consists of two portions, - an Upland and a Vale. Harston, Croxton, Knipton and Belvoir are in the Upland portion, and Muston, Bottesford, Redmile, Barkestone and Plungar are in the Vale.

<u>Number of Inhabited Houses, 1921</u>	-	-	-	872.
<u>Number of Families or Separate Occupiers</u>	-	-	-	871.
<u>Rateable Value</u> :	-	-	-	£25,680.
<u>Sum represented by a penny rate:</u>	-	-	-	£107.

Social Conditions:

The chief occupations of residents are farmers, farm labourers, ironstone labourers, and those engaged in railway work.

There are numerous shops in the different villages, and in Bottesford many of the residents go to their work either in Nottingham or Grantham.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28917145>

VITAL STATISTICS.

<u>BIRTHS :</u>					<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
	Legitimate	42)		49.	15.	27.
	Illegitimate	7)			3.	4.
<u>DEATHS :</u>	-	-	-	-	54.	34.	20.
Number of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth)	From Sepsis	0.
)	From Other Causes	1.
<u>DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR :</u>							
	Legitimate	7.		Males	5.	Females	2.
	Illegitimate	0.		Males	0.	Females	0.
<u>DEATHS FROM MEASLES</u> (all ages):	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.
<u>DEATHS FROM WHOOPING COUGH :</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.
<u>DEATHS FROM DIARRHOEA UNDER 2 YEARS OF AGE :</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.

Comparing these figures with those for 1924, there were 49 births, compared with 64, giving a birth rate of 11.8. This compared very unfavourably with the birth rate for England and Wales, which is 18.3.

The Deaths numbered 54, as compared with 47 for 1924; the death rate for 1925 is 16.3 per 1,000, as compared with 12.2 per 1,000 of the population for England and Wales.

The Infantile Mortality for 1925 for your District is 142 per 1,000 births, which again compares unfavourably with the figure for England and Wales, which is 75.

The amount of Poor Relief was £307. 4. 2.

The chief cause of sickness during the year in your district was Chicken Pox, no fewer than 46 Cases being notified.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Hospitals provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or by the County Council:

1. Tuberculosis at Mowsley and Snarestone, with a Dispensary at Melton Mowbray.
2. Maternity : None.
3. Children : A Convalescent Home for Children at Charnwood Forest.
4. Fever : The Isolation Hospital is at Melton Mowbray.
5. Smallpox Hospitals at Snarestone and Syston.

The General Hospitals in use but not subsidised or provided by the County Council or the Local Authority are :

The General Hospital, Nottingham.
Women's Hospital, Nottingham.
Children's Hospital, Nottingham.
The Grantham Hospital.

Institutional Provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children in the Area :

The only Institution is the Grantham Poor-Law Institution.

Ambulance Facilities :

- (a) For Infectious Cases.—These are always removed by Ambulance sent from the Hospital.
- (b) For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases.—There is no ambulance kept in the Area; one can always be obtained from Nottingham or Grantham.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

The Public Health Officers of the Council are the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector, both being part-time Officials. Half of the salaries of the two above-mentioned Officials is provided by Exchequer Grant. The Medical Officer holds the Diploma in Public Health (Oxford), and the Sanitary Inspector the Sanitary Qualification granted by the University of Nottingham.

Professional Nursing in the Home :

(a). General.

The Belvoir Nursing Association operates in this district and does not receive financial assistance from any Authority. These Nurses attend Maternity Cases and do general nursing, but do not attend cases of Infectious Disease.

(b). For Infectious Disease.

There are no nursing arrangements. Every effort is made to get every case into Hospital, and those patients who can afford it arrange for a Private Nurse from an Institution or Home and are treated at their own homes.

Midwives :

Some of the Nurses employed by the Belvoir Nursing Association are Certified Midwives. There is one Certified Midwife practising on her own account.

Legislation in Force.

List of Adoptive Acts, Bye-Laws and Local Regulations relating to Public Health in force in the District, with date of adoption :

Part III. Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, for Rural District Councils - operative June 2nd., 1914.
Bye-Laws thereunder.
New Streets and Buildings, - March 10th., 1915.
Public Health Act, 1925 : such sections of Parts 2, 3, and 4, as are applicable to Rural Districts.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply :

Harston, Croxton, Knipton, and Belvoir have a good supply of spring water, free from pollution, and the parishes in the Vale are supplied by shallow wells, being more shallow in Bottesford than in the other villages. No part of the district is supplied from Water Works.

Two wells have been cleaned out and repaired, - one at Muston and one at Redmile.

Rivers and Streams :

The River Devon runs through the District. Beginning in the parish of Croxton, it receives the Croxton sewerage after it has passed through a filter bed. It then passes through Knipton and receives the overflow of the Septic Filter Beds there. It then turns to Muston, about eight miles distant, where all the drains ultimately enter into it. From here it passes on to Bottesford, where a few more drains enter it. Beyond Bottesford, it joins the River Smite, and eventually joins the River Trent near Newark.

Drainage and Sewerage :

At Croxton and Knipton the sewerage from those houses with water closets passes to the filter beds. At Croxton the effluent runs into a dyke, and after two miles of natural filtration enters the River Devon at Knipton. The sewers of Muston, and a small proportion of those at Bottesford, pass directly into the River. At Bottesford, there is a main sewer which follows the course of the main road from Grantham to Nottingham, and at the west end of the village it is open and runs as such for two miles to the boundary of the district. The solid matter is removed from this open sewer when necessary. The main sewer is flushed frequently from the River Devon.

Closet Accomodation :

At Croxton and Knipton some of the houses have water closets, and the sewage goes to the filter bed, and the houses that have no closets are emptied in the ordinary way by the tenants.

Harston mostly by pan closets.

Knipton chiefly water closets.

Muston, Redmile, Barkestone and Plungar have chiefly pan closets.

Bottesford chiefly pan closets, but many of the houses have water closets which drain in the main sewer.

Scavenging :

Occupiers have to arrange for their own scavenging, - there is no public scavenger.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area :

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Year 1925.

Belvoir Rural District.

Total No. of	complaints received during the year	-	-	7.		
"	"	inspections made for all purposes	-	-	248.	
"	"	notices served	108; Informal 106, Statutory 2.			
"	"	summonses issued	-	-	-	Nil.
"	"	convictions obtained	-	-	-	Nil.

Insanitary Houses (No. inspected) 1. No. cleaned 1.
(Public Health Act 1875).

Smoke Nuisances : No. of observations 4. Nuisances abated 1.
Overcrowding : No. of houses inspected 1. Nuisances abated 1.
Offensive accumulations : No. inspected 4. Nuisances abated 4.

Closet Accomodation:

Total No. in District at the end of the year:-

(1) Privies 55; (2) Pail closets 816; (3) W. C's. 49.
Privies (middens) No. of new provided.... No. repaired.....
No. converted to (a) pails 5, (b) W.C's...
Pails or earth closets - No. of new provided 5.
No. converted to W.C's, Nil.
Water closets - No. of new provided, 4.

Drainage and sewerage:

Drains, drain traps, etc - No. inspected, 88. Nuisances abated, 17.
Cesspools - No. repaired, cleansed, etc, 23.
No. abolished and drains connected to sewer, Nil.

Scavenging :

How is refuse disposed of ? - Ash-pits and refuse heaps.
Is Refuse Destructor available ? No.
Ash-pits : No. of new provided, Nil. No. converted to ashbins, Nil.
Ashbins : No. of new provided, Nil.

Water Supply :

No. of samples taken for analysis, 1. No. condemned, 1.
Wells - No. closed, Nil. No. cleansed, repaired, etc, 2.
No. of instances where public supply was instituted for
the well, Nil.

Infectious Diseases:

Houses - No. inspected, 4. No. of inspections, 8.
No. disinfected (a) Houses, 4. (b) Schoolrooms, 2.

What are the arrangements for disinfection of :-

- (a) bedding)
(b) premises) Spray and Fumigation.

<u>Regulated</u> <u>Buildings,</u> <u>Trades, etc.</u>	No. in Dis- trict.	No. regis- tered.	No. of inspec- tions made.	No. of Contra- ventions found.	General Conditions.
Common lodging houses.					
Canal Boats.					
Offensive Trades.					

Food Supply :

No. of seizures - - Nil. No. of summonses - Nil.
No. of convictions - - Nil. No. of parcels
surrendered, Nil.
No. of carcasses or parts of carcasses condemned - - Nil.
State arrangements for disposal of condemned meat :-

Private slaughter houses.	<u>In 1920.</u>	<u>In Jan, 1925.</u>	<u>In Dec. 1925.</u>
No. registered	-	6.	6.
No. licensed	-	-	1.

General Condition of slaughter houses - Good.

No. of inspections of premises - 69.

No. of contraventions of bye-laws, Nil.

Has public abattoir been established ? No.

No. of inspections of meat at time of slaughter - 30.

Arrangements for inspection at time of slaughter :

Notice given to Sanitary Inspector.

Meat Marking - Has approval been given ? - No.

Meat Stalls - No. of inspections, Nil.

Meat Shops, Stores, etc - No. of inspections, Nil.

Meat Handling and Transport - No. of contraventions found, Nil.

Total No. of inspections of places where food (other than
meat) is kept or prepared for sale : Nil.

No. of contraventions found - Nil.

Are existing powers adequate ? _____

Milk Supply: (Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order, 1885 - 1889 etc.) (Milk & Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922).

Have regulations been adopted ? - Yes.
Has Veterinary Inspector been appointed ? - No.

Retail purveyors.

(a) Register - No. on.....
(b) Premises - Total No. of inspections made.....
 No. of contraventions found.....
No. found to require -
 (a) Cleansing.....
 (b) Structural or sanitary improvements...

Wholesale traders and producers.

4a) Register - No. on..... 91.
(b) Premises - No. of inspections made :
 (a) Total..... 50.
 (b) During milking time... 10.
 No. of contraventions found..... 16.
No. found to require -
 (a) Cleansing..... 10.
 (b) Structural or sanitary improvements. 0.
No. of samples of milk taken for Bacteriological exam. 0.
Total No. of milch cows in the district.....950.
Legal proceedings:
 No. of summonses issue.....Nil.
 No. of convictions obtained.....Nil.

Factory & Workshops Act, 1901.

Workshops - No. on register (to include Bakehouses).....32.
 No. of nuisances abated..... 2.
Bakehouses -No. on register..... 5.
 Sanitary Conditions.....Fair.
 No. of nuisances abated.....1.
Legal proceedings.....Nil.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

If appointed to act as Officer.....No.

Diseases of Animals Acts, 1894 - 1909.

If appointed to act as Officer.....No.

Housing:

No. of new houses erected during year:-

- (a) Total..... Nil.
- (b) With state assistance under the Housing Acts... Nil

1. Unfit dwelling-houses:

- 1. Total No. of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)..... Nil.
- 2. No. of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations..... Nil.
- 3. No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation..... Nil.
- 4. No. of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be 1. in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.

II. Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.

No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.....1.

III. Action under Statutory Powers.

(a) Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.

- 1. No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices.... were served requiring repairs.....
- 2. No of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-
 - (a) by owners.....
 - (b) by Local Authority in default of owners.....
- 3. No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close.....

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

1. No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.
2. No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-
 - (a) (by owners)
 - (b) by Local Authority in default of owners

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11, 14, and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.

1. No. of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders.
2. No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made.
3. No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwellinghouses having been rendered fit.
4. No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.
5. No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.

R. J. KETTLEBORROW,
Sanitary Inspector.

Schools :

All are in good sanitary condition, and all have either a suitable supply of water on the premises or an available supply within easy distance.

The Memorandum on Closure of and Exclusion from School, 1925, has been followed, and no school was closed during 1925 except for the usual holidays.

HOUSING.

i. General Housing Conditions:-

On the whole, the housing conditions are satisfactory.

There are a good many houses that are defective, but which could easily be made quite in order. The defects have not been remedied on account of expense. There is no shortage of houses.

ii. Overcrowding:-

None to any extent.

iii. Fitness of Houses:-

General standard is good, the chief defect being dampness.

This is chiefly in the Vale, and due to natural surroundings. The bulk of these are very old houses without damp courses.

iv. Unhealthy Areas.

There are none in the Area.

Housing Statistics for the Year, 1925:-

There were no new houses erected during the year.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925.

No. of new houses erected during year:-

- (a) Total..... Nil.
- (b) With state assistance under the Housing Acts... Nil

I. Unfit dwelling-houses:

- 1. Total No. of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)..... Nil.
- 2. No. of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations..... Nil.
- 3. No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation..... Nil.
- 4. No. of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be 1. in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.

II. Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.

No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.....1.

III. Action under Statutory Powers.

(a) Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.

- 1. No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices.... were served requiring repairs.....
- 2. No of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-
 - (a) by owners.....
 - (b) by Local Authority in default of owners.....
- 3. No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close.....

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

1. No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which
notices were served requiring defects to
be remedied.
2. No. of dwelling-houses in which defects
were remedied after service of formal
notices:-
 - (a) (by owners)
 - (b) by Local Authority in
default of owners

(c) Proceedings under Sections II, I4, and I5 of the Housing
Act, 1925.

1. No. of representations made with a view
to the making of Closing Orders.
2. No. of dwelling-houses in respect of
which Closing Orders were made.
3. No. of dwelling-houses in respect of
which Closing Orders were determined,
the dwellingshouses having been
rendered fit.
4. No. of dwelling-houses in respect of
which Demolition Orders were made.
5. No. of dwelling-houses demolished in
pursuance of Demolition Orders.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

a. Milk Supply:-

There is an ample supply and satisfactory distribution of pure milk in the area. There are 91 cowkeepers in the district. Some of the milk is sent to towns, some is used locally, and the rest made into cheese. There is one Cheese Factory situated at Barkstone. The dairies are kept clean, and the cow-sheds white-washed regularly. Samples of milk are taken by the County Council.

b. Meat.

The Sanitary Inspector has been appointed Meat Inspector, and works under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924. He also inspects the shops, vehicles, and slaughter-houses.

Private Slaughter Houses:

	<u>In 1920.</u>	<u>In Jan.1925.</u>	<u>In Dec.1925.</u>
Registered.....	-	6.	6.
Licensed.....	-	-	1.
Total	0.	6.	7.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The only disease that has been at all prevalent during the last five years has been Chicken Pox, and this only in 1921 -39 cases- and in 1925, - 46 cases. Only one case of malaria was notified and nine of pneumonia. There have been no cases of Encephalitis Lethargica notified.

The use of the County Laboratory has been made on 14 occasions

Sputa for Tubercle Bacilli	-	-	7.
Throat swabs for Diphtheria	-	-	4.
Hairs for Ring-worm	-	-	2.
Sewage and Water Analyses	-	-	1.
			<u>14.</u>

No vaccinations or re-vaccinations have been performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Small Pox Prevention) Regulations. No outbreak of Small Pox occurred in the area.

There are no facilities available in the area for the cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons. In cases of infectious disease, the bedding is removed with the patient to the Isolation Hospital and disinfected there. The premises are disinfected by the Sanitary Inspector with Formalin Spray and Sulphur Candles.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR IN AGE GROUPS.

	Under 1 year.	1 to 2.	2 to 3.	3 to 4.	4 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 35.	35 to 50.	50 to 65.	Over 65.	Total.
Diphtheria.	1.					1							2
Enteric Fever.									2				2
Pneumonia.	1	1						1		2			5
Erysipelas.										1		1	2
Chicken Pox.	2	6	3	3	5	23	4						46.

Cases admitted to Hospital:

Enteric Fever, 2.

Deaths:

Pneumonia, 2.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1925.

<u>Age-Periods.</u>	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
15.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
20.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25.	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
35.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	1.	2.	1.	1.	1.	0.	0.	0.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

No action has been taken under these Regulations.

Maternity and Child Welfare:-

No case of Neonatorum Ophthalmia was notified.

A Child Welfare Centre has been started in Bottesford, and will, I think, prove very useful.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION
OF THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901

in connection with
FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

1. Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Premises.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
<u>Factories.</u>	-	-	-
<u>Workshops.</u>	25.	2	0
<u>Workplaces.</u>	-	-	-
	---	---	---
Total	25.	2.	0.
	===	===	===

2. Defects Found in Factories, Workshops & Workplaces.

Particulars.	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Prose- cutions.
Want of Cleanliness.	2.	2.	0	0

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

F. J. H. MARTIN.

